

DSCC Evaluation of Staff Policy

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the method by which Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) staff members are evaluated each year.

II. Scope

This policy applies to all DSCC staff members.

III. Policy

DSCC recognizes that employees have a need and expectation to be advised of their performance as perceived by their supervisors. DSCC evaluates the effectiveness of each staff member on an annual basis in accord with published criteria. The purpose of the evaluation is to assist the employee in improving future job performance. Responsibility for evaluating staff members begins with the immediate supervisor, who completes the DSCC Staff Performance Review annually, usually in the spring of each fiscal year. The evaluations should effectively measure the competence, efficiency, conduct, merit and other job-related functions.

It is the responsibility of the Director of Human Resources to assist Vice Presidents, Deans, Directors, and Department Heads in the development of performance standards, methods and procedures and to assume overall responsibility for the College's performance evaluation system.

Dyersburg State Community College maintains a policy of evaluating the job performance of its employees as a means of measuring operational efficiency and effectiveness; providing employees with meaningful information about their work and aiding the College in making personnel decisions related to such areas as training, compensation, promotion, job assignments, retention and long-range planning of college operations. Evaluation of employees is intended to be participatory in nature by helping employees to contribute to the progress of college.

Probationary Evaluations

Employees at Dyersburg State Community College are appointed with the expectation that they will contribute to the mission and success of college. It is therefore reasonable to initiate

certain measures during the employee's initial probationary period to maximize their potential for success. The initial probationary period for all non-faculty employees is six months. Each employee shall receive a formal performance evaluation during the initial probationary period as a means of determining such job characteristics as adjustment to employment conditions, integration into College's work force, job learning process, attendance and any other feature of the individual's job success. During this period of initial employment, each employee is to receive close supervision, instruction, and review of work, training, and any other guidance that is supportive of the employee's opportunity for success on the job. If the employee is not meeting performance standards, the supervisor should contact Human Resources to discuss and to determine if the probationary should be extended.

Discretionary Performance Evaluations

Dyersburg State Community College retains the right to conduct performance evaluations outside of the regularly scheduled times. This provides Vice Presidents, Deans, Directors and Department Heads a means of documenting any specific performance deficiencies and a process in which to correct them. Further, should the particular performance deficiency not be corrected within acceptable limits, the discretionary evaluation can serve as important documentation when it becomes necessary to consider disciplinary actions up to and including termination of the services of such an employee. The primary intent is to bring to the employee's attention a performance decline and the ways and means to correct it. It is the desire of the College that the problem will be resolved in this manner and disciplinary measures, including termination, will be avoided. Division/Department Heads may utilize the self-evaluation as a means for gaining the employees perception of his or her performance.

Review with Employee

Each formal performance evaluation will be thoroughly discussed with the applicable employee to point out areas that need improvement or are unacceptable. Employees are encouraged to comment about their work performance, in writing or verbally, and to discuss working conditions and offer suggestions for improving business operations.

The employee should sign the performance report to acknowledge awareness of its contents and discussion with the rating supervisor. The employee's signature does not necessarily mean the employee fully agrees with the contents of the evaluation and a statement to this affect is included on the evaluation instrument. The employee is entitled to a copy of the evaluation. In situations when an employee has reason to disagree with the performance evaluations, the employee may respond to the content or conduct of the performance evaluation in writing within 14 days following the employee's discussion of the performance

evaluation with the evaluating supervisor.

If an employee chooses this option, the employee's response should be forwarded to the evaluating supervisor and a copy should be submitted to the Director of Human Resources for inclusion into the employee's file with the original evaluation document. It is the intent of the College that performance evaluations are to be completed and discussed with the employee on time. In the event that this does not occur, employees are encouraged to request, in writing to their supervisor, that their annual performance evaluation be conducted in a timely manner.

Effects of Substandard Rating

An overall substandard rating, as applied to performance evaluation, means any rating below the rating level of satisfactory/average/standard. Employees receiving a substandard rating or rating may have their employment condition modified in the following manner:

- Ineligibility for promotional consideration until the deficiency is corrected.
- Demotion to lower level of responsibility with a corresponding decrease in salary.
- Disciplinary probation with specific performance goals for improvement.
- Termination

Specific action taken as the result of substandard rating(s) will depend on, but not be limited to, such consideration as the weight or significance of the evaluation category compared to the importance of other aspects of job performance and the length of time pertinent job factors have been observed by the rating supervisor. Repeated deficient performance ratings without improvement will lead to disciplinary action up to, and including, termination of employment.

Employees receiving substandard rating will be reevaluated within three months to document progress in deficient categories unless the rating has resulted in a transfer, demotion or termination. If the employee's performance in the deficient category or categories has improved to at least a satisfactory/average/standard rating, while maintaining acceptable performance in other performance categories, the Vice President, Dean, Director or Department Head may recommend the reversal of any demotion or restoration of promotional considerations.

Supervisory Evaluations

Employees wishing to evaluate their supervisory chain (i.e., immediate supervisor, Vice President, and President) may elect to do so, by participating in the evaluation of Senior Leadership that is distributed periodically. Participation in the evaluation by employees is

voluntary. A summary of the responses will be used for improving the administration of the President and Senior Leadership.

Recordkeeping

Division Heads will forward employees final annual performance evaluation to the Office of Human Resources for inclusion in the employee's official personnel record. Discretionary and self-evaluations shall be maintained in the office of the Division/Department Head and are not submitted for inclusion in the employee's official personnel file.

IV. Compliance

All DSCC administrators, supervisors, and staff employees must comply with this policy.

V. Definitions

VI. Revision History

Policy written February 1, 2017. Approved by Administrative Council on February 2, 2017, by on-line vote. Edited April 19, 2022 and approved by Administrative Council on April 28, 2022. Reviewed and approved with no changes by Administrative Council on April 27, 2023. Reviewed and approved with changes by Administrative Council on March 27, 2025.